

Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the need for
protection of our environmental and economic resources.

Budak

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the need for protection of our environmental and economic resources.

Whereas, The Great Lakes are a tremendous asset to Indiana as an environmental and economic resource, both as the world's largest body of fresh water and as a crucial international shipping channel;

Whereas, Aquatic invasive species have caused significant damage to native environments and industrial operations in the Great Lakes and around the world;

Whereas, Indiana ranks 14th in the nation for waterborne shipping with nearly 70 million tons of maritime cargo per year, and the state's Lake Michigan ports provide Indiana farmers, steel mills, and manufacturers with access to foreign markets through the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway;

Whereas, Current federal laws governing the introduction of aquatic invasive species into United States waters via ballast water of ocean-going ships and other sources are inadequate; and

Whereas, There is currently no nationally accepted standard for ballast water quality or any approved ballast treatment technologies available to ship operators: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly has a great
2 concern for the protection of its environmental and economic resources.

3 SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the United
4 States Congress to acknowledge the national urgency of this problem
5 and move quickly to enact federal legislation to establish a strong
6 ballast water regulatory program sufficient to prevent future
7 introduction of aquatic invasive species into all United States waters.

8 SECTION 3. That the Indiana General Assembly declares its
9 support for the efforts of the United States Coast Guard and the
10 International Maritime Organization to put in place an international
11 ballast water treatment and regulatory program.

12 SECTION 4. That the Indiana General Assembly declares its
13 support for the "Great Ships Initiative," a research and development
14 project funded jointly by the Indiana Port Commission and other Great
15 Lakes ports, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Fish
16 and Wildlife Foundation, and other federal agencies, with the goal of
17 accelerating the development and availability of ballast water treatment
18 technology.

